the production of Pulses and oilseeds in the country. Public Distribution System has been revamped and extended to far-flung, remote and hilly areas to help the poorer sections of the society in getting essential items at reasonable prices. For this purpose, 1700 blocks have been selected under the revamped DPS programme. The Government have intensified the action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 against hoarders, black-marketers and such antisocial elements. During the period 1-1-1992 to 30-3-1992 as many as 17033 raids were made, 521 persons arrested, 955 persons prosecuted, 24 persons convicted and goods worth Rs. 142.81 lakhs has been confiscated. As a result of various measures taken by the Government, there has been a decline in the prices of essential commodities such as Pulses, Potatoes, Onions, Chillies, Tea, Gur, Mustard oil, Groundnut oil and Vanaspati. The price of sugar has also stabilised at most of the centres.

385. [*Transferred to the 8th May*, 1992]

Drive against hoarders

386. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Administration has taken any steps recently to check godowns to check hoarding of rice/wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of traders arrested by the team;

(c) whether the steps to unearth hidden stocks is continuing till date; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since January, 1992, Food, Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department of Delhi Administration checked the business premises of 24 rice and wheat traders. FIRs were lodged against eight traders; four persons were arrested. Irregularities committed include non-maintenance of correct accounts of sales/ purchases and or holding stocks in excess of those prescribed during raids and checkings.

(c) and (d) The checking of licences issued under various Control orders issued by the Food Supplies and Consumers affairs Department of Delhi Administration is an ongoing process. Raids/surprise checkings are conducted by the Department from time to time. A control Room is functioning for receiving complaints from the public. An anti-hoarding cell is also attached to the Department for gathering information and rendering assistance during raids and checkings.

High prices of foodgrains in the open Market

387. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of foodgrains are abnormally high in the major wheat and rice producing States;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to introduce State trading in foodgrains eliminating the middlemen; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The prices of foodgrains are generally at reasonable levels as will be evident from the retail prices of foodgrains particularly, Rice, Wheat, Gram and Arhar as on 26-2-1992, 25-3-1992, 8-4-1992 and 22-4-1992 at different Centres given in the attached statement. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Statement

Price of Foodgrains at Selected Centres

Commodity/Centre	26.2.92	25.3.92	8.4.92	22.4.92
RICE				
Amritsar	4.75(12/2)	4.60	4.75	4.75
Ludhiana	5.50(12/2)	5.75	5.80	5.50
Karnal	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Bhubaneshwar	4.80	4.80	4.80	4.80
Cuttack	4.70	4.50	4.50	4.50
Hyderabad	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.00
Vijayawada	5.20	5.50	5.50	5.50
Madras	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.20
Madurai	5.80	5.50	5.80	5.60
WHEAT				
Hissar	4.50	4.00	3.80	3.30
Karnal	3.80	4.00	3.80	3.00
Amritsar	4.00(12/2)	3.70	3.66	3.40
Ludhiana	4.40(12/2)	4.00	3.50	2.90
Kanpur	5.00	4.50	4.00	3.70
Lucknow	4.70	4.50	4.00	3.60
Jaipur	5.00	4.50	4.50	4.40(15/4)
Patna	5.25	5.25	4.50	4.50(15/4)
Hyderabad	5.00	6.50	6.50	6.50
GRAM				
Hissar	8.80	8.50	8.50	8.30
Ludhiana	9.50(12/2)	9.00	9.00	10.00
Kanpur	8.25	8.50	8.50	8.40
Ahmedabad	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.00
Rajkot	8.75	9.00	9.25	9.25
Nagpur	9.00	9.25	9.35	9.25
Jaipur	8.50	8.25	8.25	8.50(15/4)
Jodhpur	8.00	8.00	8.10	8.25(15/4)
TUR (ARHAR)				
Hissar	14.00	14.00	16.00	14.00

1	2	3	4	5
Ludhiana	16.00(12/2)15.50	15.00	15.50(15/4)	
Kanpur	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50
Lucknow	14.00	13.00	13.50	13.00
Rajkot	16.75	16.75	16.75	16.50
Nagpur	14.75	14.80	15.50	15.50
Jaipur	17.00	16.00	16.00	16.00(15/4).
Patna	16.00	13.00	12.50	12.50(15/4).
Cuttack	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Hyderabad	14.25	14.00	14.50	15.00
Madras	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00

NR – Not repoted.

Source : State Civil Supplies Departments.

Kendriya Bhandar Bazar on Wheels

388. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Bhandar has been operating certain Bazar on wheels;

(b) if so, the names of localities with days and timings fixed for coverage of these Bazar on wheels;

(c) whether availability of these bazars in some localities of Delhi has been well publicised for the benefit of consumers;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the details of steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The Kendriya Bhandar has five mobile shops at present. The weekly schedule of their movements is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

The mobile shops are positioned at prominent points at or near the market places in consultation with the local residents Welfare Associations in order to ensure that the consumers are well aware of their existence.

Statement

Weekly Schedule of Mobile Shop No. I

MONDAY	Saket from 11·00 a.m. to 1·00 p.m. Lajpat Nagar (Amar Colony), Double Storey B, Block-B from 3·00 p.m. to 6·00 p.m.
TUESDAY	Safdarjung Enclave from 11·00 a.m. to 1·00 p.m. M.P. Canteen from 3·00 p.m. to 4·00 p.m. Saket E-Block 4·00 p.m. to 6·00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Sheikh Sarai Phase-I from 11·00 a.m. to 1·00 p.m. Lajpat Nagar (Mother Dairy) from 3·00 p.m. to 6·00 p.m.
THURSDAY	Lajpat Nagar (Dayanand Colony) from 11·00 a.m. to 1·30 p.m. Kalkaji-E Block, Mangla Apartment, Kalkaji P-Block from 3·00 p.m. to 6·00 p.m.